

## **Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council**

Meeting Number 123 (06-12)

June 4, 2012

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting was held at the new Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Joppa, MD. Meeting Number 123 was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Chairperson Mullis welcomed special guests State Senator J. B. Jennings and Andrew Tress, legislative aide to County Council President Billy Boniface. Tress said he would be going to all of the community council meetings around the county on behalf of Council President Boniface. Local council members present were Gloria Moon, Paula A. Mullis, Betty Byrne, JoAnn Macdonald, Ron Sollod, Vincent Rabenau and Doris G. Carey. Members absent were Yvonne Baldwin, James b. Lyons, III and Bob Frisch. Gloria Moon moved and JoAnn Macdonald seconded that the May minutes be approved.

### **Presentation – Senator J. B. Jennings – Legislative Update**

Senator Jennings stated that he represents everything north of I-95 in Harford County. However, in four years his district will include Joppa/Joppatowne. He stated that in the special session in Annapolis, a tax increase can be expected for persons making \$150,000 or more per year. Also, the State would like to put gaming at the National Harbor in Prince George's County. If the casino does not go on the ballot this year, it will not be on the ballot again until 2014. The Harford County Executive asked that Harford County be looked at as a possible gambling location. Sen. Jennings feels that Harford is too close to Cecil County where there is already a casino. He also feels that there is not enough revenue in Harford County to support a casino. Frederick County could be another location for a casino. The waste transfer station is also a concern for Senator Jennings. It is near his neighborhood. He feels that the golf course is not the right location for a waste transfer station. Jennings said that the work Councilman Guthrie and Woods have done concerning the transfer station is phenomenal. He also said the transfer station issue is not a state issue but a county issue. Sen. Jennings said that where the transfer station is to go, it is a funnel to that intersection. Traffic is not so bad in the mornings; however, traffic in the evening is terrible. Sen. Jennings said he is proud to represent Joppa/Joppatowne. He can be reached at 410-241-9507, 24 hours a day. He was thanked by Chairperson Mullis who said she will put him on the email list.

### **The Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report**

Corporal Vetrone of the Sheriff's Office said that he had nothing to add to the many happenings in Harford County that were reported in the newspapers this week. In Sector 10, the Joppatowne/Edgewood area, many of the statistics have either gone down or stayed the same. Robberies, burglaries, and motor vehicle theft are going down. It is believed that the Southern Precinct has a huge presence in this area and may have caused the statistics to go down. The majority of the burglaries in the area are residential. Many questions were asked of Corporal Vetrone by community members. The chair thanked him for his assistance and presentation.

### **County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie**

Councilman Guthrie explained the history of Joppa Town. He said prior to 1961, Joppatowne did not exist. This is the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the area. Dion convinced a constituent to donate a Joppa Town sign free of charge. He mentioned in pass history Joppa Town was considered for the capitol of the United States. He mentioned that the Rumsey mansion is an historic building in the area. It was through the efforts of Mrs. Jacquelyn Kennedy that prevented the Rumsey Mansion from being torn down. Councilman Guthrie introduced his legislative aide, Amber, to the local community. Dion thanked the community members who donated their time at the carnival. He said that he has secured a brass band to play at Mariner Point Park on July 1 after the parade. Councilman Guthrie said that he appreciated the support Senator J. B. Jennings had given him and Councilman Woods. Guthrie mentioned that there was bad news about the Normar Restaurant. The owners of the land will not build the restaurant as planned, because they do not want to be near the waste transfer station. It is a possibility that the transfer station will devalue private property. Questions were asked by the community concerning the community's next step and where do we stand with Col Ortiz, APG Garrison Commander. Dion said our next step is to continue to fight the solid waste plan. He said that Co Ortiz will be leaving Aberdeeen Proving Ground on July 1. Nothing will happen with the Army until the new garrison commander arrives. Everything concerning the waste to energy plant on APG came to a standstill because the County backed out. Paula Mullis thanked Dion for his work and said the community must keep u the fight.

### **Independence Day Parade –Sue Heselton and Dianna Guthrie**

Mrs. Heselton said the carnival was very successful. The number of presale tickets was 102, and the amount received from the presale tickets was \$1,224. The amusement tax amount was \$5,241. The amount received from the carnival was \$11,252. Anyone interested in marching in the parade is required to pay fee of \$20. Line up for the parade will begin between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. on Shore Drive. The parade will proceed along Joppa Farm Rd to Joppatowne High School. Paula Mullis suggested that members of the community march in the parade, representing opposition to the waste transfer station being placed in the Joppa/Joppatowne community. Sue thanked all who volunteered to help at the carnival. Dion and Paula thanked her for the many hours she spent volunteering at the carnival and the work she is doing with the parade.

### **Community Updates from Community Council Members and Community**

Paula Mullis said that the community will not go away and will continue to oppose the transfer station. She also encouraged everyone to sign up for emails so they can be kept abreast of what is going on in the community.

Gloria and JoAnn bought signs and encouraged other to do the same. Ron Sollod expressed concerns about the many accidents that have happened over the last month. There is a concern about the amount of traffic the transfer station would cause near the fire station. It could cause service to be slowed from the fire station.

Betty Byrne talked briefly about the upcoming Farm Fair. She passed out booklets stating that the Farm Fair will be held, July 26-29. She encouraged everyone to come to the Farm Fair.

Vincent Rabenau will check with various businesses to display “no transfer station” signs on their property.

Paula Mullis thanked everyone for their time and requested that everyone brings other members to the local council meetings.

Ron Sollod motioned and Doris Carey seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Minutes by Doris Carey